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AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 22 April 2005 (22.04.05) ;
Original claim 1 replaced by new claim 1. Claims 2-15 unchanged (3 pages).]

1. Corkscrew comprising:

10 - a handgrip (1);
- a screw (2) associated to said handgrip (1) via a first pivoting connection (3);
- an arm (4, 4') comprising first abutting members (5, 5') and associated to said handgrip (1) via a second connection (21) that enables said arm (4, 4') to pivotally rotate, said arm (4, 4') being further capable of performing a second movement relative to said handgrip (1);
- elastic means (10) adapted to affect at least said second movement of said arm (4, 4')
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20 **characterised in that** said elastic means (10) are configured for assisting the angular displacement of the handgrip (1) in the direction of the cork extraction.

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20 **2. Corkscrew according to claim 1, in which said elastic means (10)**
support said movement of said arm (4, 4') in a first direction of displacement, while opposing such movement in a second direction contrary to the first one.

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30 **3. Corkscrew according to claim 2, in which said first direction is the one in which said arm (4, 4') moves away from said first pivoting connection (3).**

4. Corkscrew according to one or more of the preceding claims in which a displacement of said arm (4, 4') in the direction in which it moves closer to said first pivoting connection (3) causes the potential energy of said elastic means (10) to increase.

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5. Corkscrew according to one or more of the preceding claims in which said elastic means (10) are arranged between said handgrip (1) and said arm (4, 4').

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6. Corkscrew according to one or more of the preceding claims in which said elastic means (10) are constituted by either a coil spring (14) or a flat spring (15).

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7. Corkscrew according to claim 6, in which said flat spring (15) comprises at least a first surface portion (16, 16') in a cusp-like conformation to generate a variation in the speed at which said second movement occurs.

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8. Corkscrew according to one or more of the preceding claims in which said second connection (21) is constituted by a stud-and-slot coupling (8, 9).

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9. Corkscrew according to claim 8, in which said stud (8) is firmly joined to said arm (4, 4') and said slot (9) is provided in said handgrip (1).

10. Corkscrew according to claim 8, in which said stud (8) is firmly joined to said handgrip (1) and said slot (9) is provided in said arm (4, 4').

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11. Corkscrew according to one or more of the preceding claims in which said arm (4, 4') comprises second abutting members (13) situated between said second connection (21) and said first abutting members (5, 5').

12. Corkscrew according to one or more of the preceding claims in which

the handgrip (1) comprises a cutting arrangement (23) for cutting off a film used to seal off the neck of a bottle.

13. Corkscrew according to claim 12, in which said cutting arrangement (23) comprises a stationary portion (26) and a support (27), the latter being displaceable relative to said stationary portion (26) between a first resting position and a second operating position thereof.

14. Corkscrew according to claim 13, in which the stationary portion (26) and the support (27) comprise cavities (30) that are so arranged as to face each other, so that, when said support (27) is in said second operating position thereof, they form a recess (31) adapted to accommodate an end portion of the neck of a bottle

15. Apparatus according to any of the preceding claims 12 to 14, in which said cutting arrangement (23) comprises at least a cutting member in the form of a wheel (24, 25).